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Review of *Social Work Practice with Survivors of Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation*. Amanda J. Nichols, Tonya Edmond, and Erin C. Heil (Eds.)

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Amanda. J. Nichols, Tonya Edmond, & Erin C. Heil (Eds.), *Social Work Practice with Survivors of Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation*. Columbia University (2018), 448 pages, \$50.00 (hardcover).

This book offers accounts of the best practices concerning serious societal issues related to sex trafficking (ST) and commercial sexual exploitation (CSE). The numerous authors well communicate to readers using case examples and illustrative guides on ST and CSE. With increased ST and CSE, there is a need for improved social work responses in work with the affected population. These essays emphasize the challenges encountered, interventions, and preventive work involved in working with this population. Bottom line, this book is an important primer for social workers.

The book is to be lauded for focusing on an important social issue that demands urgent interventions on all fronts. ST and CSE present complicated issues that signify how rotten and lacking in direction a society has become. It reveals underlying issues that demand both short-term and long-term solutions. The chapters of this book provide a teaching tool for students and instructors, as well as a tool for communications with service agencies involved in victim assistance or advocacy.

The book makes compelling arguments rooted in evidence-based research studies across regions and disciplines. By giving survivors a voice, these writers make it real and drive the message with poignancy and logic. I especially appreciate the authors' intergenerational perspective in trying to analyze the risk factors affecting African-American victims and survivors of ST. This prudent approach is useful for social workers, helping them to understand how sociopolitical and sociocultural factors influence the lives of victims and survivors of ST in this minority group. Valandra, of the University of Arkansas, in particular highlights the need to create culturally responsive policies to enhance the effectiveness of social work interventions. For this to be achieved, social workers must be conversant with these cultural dynamics, and Valandra's essay here is a good place to start.

These authors reiterate that an intergenerational perspective supports resilience, recovery, and healing. Family assessment is crucial, revealing intergenerational risks that can guide social

workers in formulating preventive measures. There is concern about the underrepresentation of African Americans in study sampling pools, as it skews the data on the magnitude of ST and CSE. Based on the data cited here, African Americans constitute the most statistically significant group of victims. This in itself is a needed wakeup call for those doing research in this field.

The book is also highly recommended for its structural organization and presentation. Its chapters are organized topically, with condensed issues discussed by the various authors. That makes it an easy read and synthesis of information for the readers. The editors' summary introduction provides the reader with a useful encapsulation of the book's contents, giving a glimpse of what is to come in each section. There is a cohesiveness of the information that flows from the first to the last part of the book. The book will also be useful those conducting further research studies, replicating results across different populations and analyzing future trends. As the book points out, there are still many gaps in the collective knowledge about social work interventions with the affected populations, especially with survivors. We need advancement in this knowledge, as well as practical measures, to ameliorate and eradicate this social menace.

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